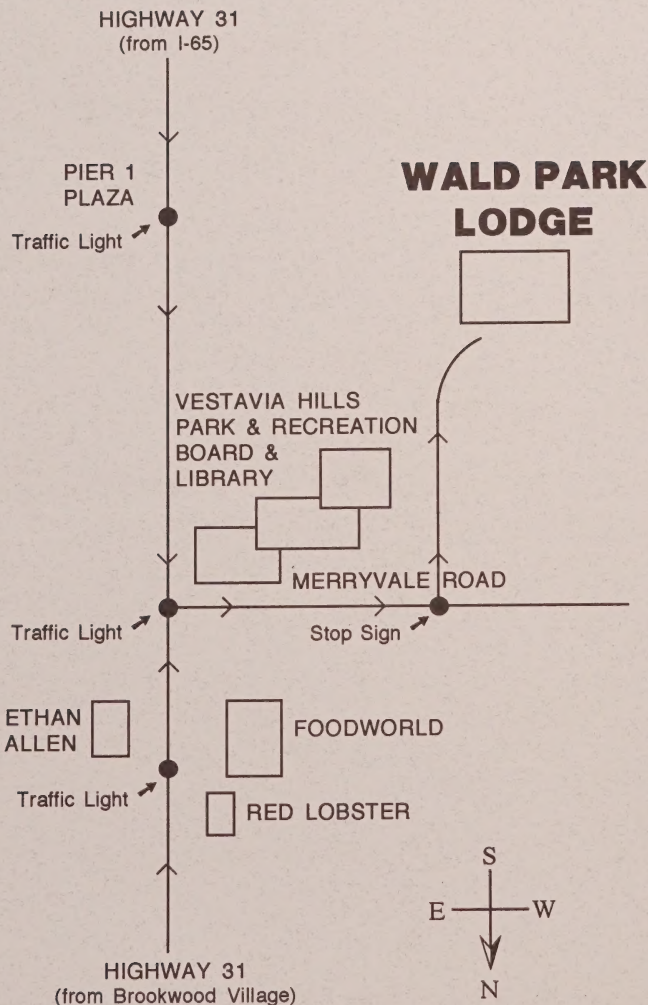




"Observing Five Years of Serving"

Presents



Sunday, October 16, 1994

3:00 pm until 5:00 pm

Music Provided by:
LADIES NIGHT OUT
THE BIRMINGHAM HERITAGE BAND COMBO

Delicacies provided by:
O'CARRS, CONTINENTAL BAKERY,
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and many others.

MELISSA SPRINGER'S
A BABY'S PLACE SERIES *of photographs*
captures the essence of our mission,
and will have its first Birmingham showing
at this event.

SILENT AUCTION

TEDDY BEAR ADOPTIONS

THIS FUNDRAISER IS MADE POSSIBLE BY
FRIENDS OF A BABY'S PLACE

You are cordially invited to join with
A Baby's Place in celebrating
our fifth anniversary with:

A Proper English Tea

Consisting of:
Fine Teas and Wines

- First Course: Fruits, Cheeses, and Creams*
Second: Scrumptious Crumpets and Scones
Third: Assorted Tea Sandwiches
and other Savories
Fourth: Delicious Assorted Desserts

Sunday, October 16, 1994
3:00 pm until 5:00 pm
Wald Park Lodge
Behind Vestavia Hills Library
(Map on back)

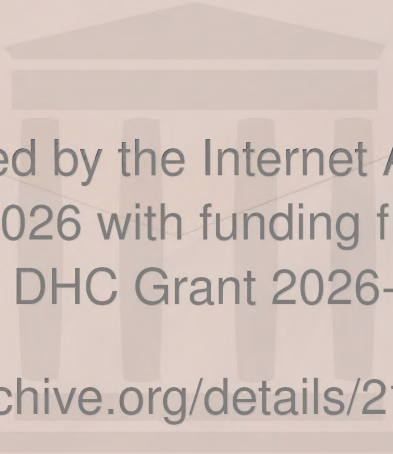
Please RSVP by October 10, 1994

29¢

every cent
helps a child



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A BABY'S PLACE OF ALABAMA, INC. • FIFTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
"A GATHERING OF HOPE FOR CHILDREN WITH AIDS"

_____ Yes, I will attend and I will bring _____ guests.

_____ No, with regrets I will be unable to attend. Please accept my enclosed contribution.

_____ I am unable to attend or contribute at this time but keep me on your mailing list.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

All donations are tax deductible as allowed by law. All proceeds will be used by **A Baby's Place of Alabama, Inc.** to enhance the lives of children living with HIV/AIDS throughout the state of Alabama. For more information phone (205) 939-1514 FAX (205) 933-2555.

SPACE IS LIMITED... PLEASE RSVP BY OCTOBER 10, 1994.



A BABY'S PLACE OF ALABAMA

Serving Children with AIDS

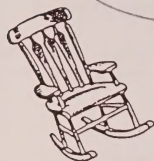
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A BABY'S PLACE OF ALABAMA



ROCK and RATTLE

Serving Children with AIDS



Volume 2 Issue 1

Quarterly Newsletter

Spring, 1996



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As the members of the Board of Directors of A Baby's Place of Alabama, Inc., we, Edith M. Hill, Carolyn G. Allan, S. Joseph Elmore, Mrs. Wayne H. Gillis, Cassandra Golden, Esq., Donald L. Greene, Gaynell Hendricks, Thomas Moody, MD, Rev. Ronald L. Nored, Bruce F. Rogers, Esq., and Sarah Verser, feel we must respond to recent publicity regarding the vital work of this organization.

We are committed to the continuation and expansion of services provided by A Baby's Place of Alabama, Inc. Since its founding, A Baby's Place of Alabama, Inc. has been and continues to be involved in service to children and families affected by AIDS. A part of this service is to provide foster and respite care for children living with the horrifying effects of AIDS. Beyond this home care, a large number of other services are provided to families, including support groups for HIV-positive women with children; equipping nurseries for babies; providing financial assistance for shelter, basic needs, and funerals; direct care training and educational workshops for churches, schools, day-care workers and the community at large; and state wide recruitment for foster parents. We are convinced that the present trend of infection among women of child-bearing years and the future response of the community to this devastating disease will require the continuation of services which are currently a part of the ongoing work of A Baby's Place of Alabama, Inc.

We are saddened that certain misconceptions and, we believe, distortions have raised questions about the need of A Baby's Place of Alabama, Inc., as well as the work of Ms. Glenda G. Hollis, who has served as a foster mother for HIV-infected children for seven years and as A Baby's Place of Alabama's Executive Director for five years. As volunteers who serve on behalf of the community, we want it to be known that our respect for and commitment to both the work of this organization and our Executive Director is unequivocal.

We are keenly aware of the trust which the community places in us by its financial support, and we want, in every way, to honor that trust and support. A Baby's Place of Alabama does not wish to participate in any activities--publicly or privately--which would serve to exacerbate the idea of internal fighting among HIV/AIDS service organizations. We realize that by so doing, all organizations would be affected and ultimately those living and dying with this disease would truly suffer. We renew our commitment to listen carefully to the many clients we serve, to those of you who support A Baby's Place invariably, and to those working in other AIDS service organizations. It is our hope that together we can serve all persons who are a part of this tragic pandemic.

--Edith M. Hill, President



NEW ARRIVALS...

Board of Directors, '96

Lee Ann Bruno...

Lee Ann is the mother of a four year-old and an active member of the community. She was President of the Civettes Club for four years, and has served on the boards of United Cerebral Palsy, Alabama Zoological Society, and Bruno's Memorial Classic, to name a few.

David G. Hill...

Currently serving as Director of Publications for Birmingham-Southern College, David has enjoyed a distinguished career in public relations, fund-raising, publishing, marketing, and communications. He also has the honor of being one of the first twelve contributors to A Baby's Place of Alabama.

Debbie W. Hunter...

Debbie works in the UAB Office of Marketing directing a team which develops strategy and marketing promotions for UAB. She has been actively involved in the UAB-AIDS Center for several years. She has two daughters, 10 and 13, who are also active in HIV/AIDS awareness.

Joey Kennedy...

Joey is currently an editorial writer for The Birmingham News, a position he has held since 1981. He was awarded a Pulitzer Prize for editorial writing in 1991.

Rev. Roger Lovette...

Dr. Lovette serves as Minister of the Baptist Church of the Covenant in Birmingham. His congregation was the first in Birmingham to institute universal precautions in Sunday School classes, providing a safe and welcome environment for children with HIV/AIDS.

E. Andre Petties...

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Mr. Petties currently serves as Chief Aide to Jeff Germany, Commissioner of Health and Human Services for Jefferson County.

Julianne L. Venable, PhD...

A clinical psychologist with a private practice in Birmingham, Dr. Venable specializes in counseling transition, loss and bereavement issues in adolescents and adults. She is a member of both the American and Southeastern Psychological Associations.

Donna Wilkins...

Recently retired from state service after 25 years, Ms. Wilkins served as Executive Director of the Medical Services Division of the Alabama Medicaid Agency (1989), Deputy Commissioner of Programs (1990), and Deputy Commissioner of Eligibility (1990), a position she held until retirement this year.

We can do no great things, only small things with great love (happy are those).

--Mother Theresa



More than a House.

More than a Woman...

Seven years ago, A Baby's Place opened as a house in an unidentified neighborhood which, as the brochure describes, provides "a wonderful, warm place"--a Home--for children affected by AIDS. A Baby's Place has also been a woman with a bold spirit- Glenda Hollis, its founder, mother, supporter and heartbeat. I held these images in my mind as I drove to the recent orientation of the new Board members. I thought about the house that served as a sanctuary to children and mothers affected by AIDS. I wondered what it looked like as I played with various shapes, sizes and textures. I thought about its founder and admired her courage to keep the vision alive in spite of the many obstacles she faced, now and then.

As I sat through the meeting, I continued to roll these thoughts over in my mind. But as I listened, new images began to emerge. The lines of the house began to broaden, doors opened and became wider, light from the windows shown brighter and turned into beacons that filled the sky. This one strong woman was suddenly joined by legions of women and men; black and white, who gave their time, their hearts, and their knowledge to insure that not only the babies within the home were cared for, but all HIV mothers and children in our state.

In 1991, A Baby's Place of Alabama, Inc., became more than a "home" and a woman. It is an entire network which blankets the state of Alabama with varied resources. It strives to care not only for the children residing in Glenda's home but all children battling this devastating disease in Alabama. It is a resource for the most basic needs, such as food, clothing, shelter and transportation, but it is also a mother's day out, a summer retreat, a counseling service, and an enormous educational resource. It is a new pair of shoes, a full tummy, a soothing word, and a smile through tears. It is a haven for HIV-infected mothers who cannot care for their children within the home, but it is also the support which enables mothers, fathers, and children to remain together.

So, while our first thoughts will always reflect those early images of a house and one noble woman, our future mission will be to help others see the broader contributions A Baby's Place of Alabama makes to the families of our state. Beyond its brick and mortar, it is a *Place* that resides in the hearts and souls of the people it touches. The future success of this precious resource will depend upon our ability to share our global vision with the community.

-- Debbie Hunter



UPDATE

"First 500,000 AIDS Cases-United States 1995"

Journal of the American Medical Assoc. Vol. 274 No. 23 P. 1827

The CDC reports that as of October 31, 1995, a total of 501,310 Americans had AIDS. Sixty-two percent of those people had died.... Among women, the proportion of cases increased from 8% during 1981-1987 to 18% during 1993-October 1995. Among whites, the percentage of cases decreased from 60% to 43%, though it rose from 25% to 38% and from 14% to 18% among blacks and Hispanics, respectively. The proportion of cases rose among injection drug users, and the percentage of people who were infected through heterosexual sex increased from 3% to 10%. Among homosexual men, the proportion of cases decreased from 64% to 45%. **The largest proportionate increase in cases was reported in the South. A greater proportion of cases was reported in small metropolitan statistical areas and rural regions of the South and midwest among adolescents and young adults than among those in the Northeast and West.**

NOT ALL BATTLES ARE FOUGHT WITH A SWORD.

OCTOBER
11-13, 1996

AIDS MEMORIAL
QUILT DISPLAY

WASHINGTON
DC

NAMES Project:

415-882-5500

Travel Info:

800-926-2631



UNITED AIRLINES
is the official airline of the NAMES Project



THE GRACE OF GREAT THINGS

"I'm a dangerous woman."

We are sitting in the office of Yvonne Howze, newly-instated Director of Operations for A Baby's Place of Alabama, on an unseasonably warm Friday in February. Her comment is compelling, and her delivery utterly disarming. The arrow finds its mark.

"Dangerous? How so?"

"Because I know who I am, and I know who I am *not*. That's frightening to most people."

One supposes that Yvonne's self-knowledge on its own is not enough to send people running for the nearest exit; the process of self-discovery is one with which we can all claim an uneasy familiarity. But watching Yvonne and listening to her speak, it is suddenly clear why this trait *in her* might silently disarm the unwary listener- she is powerfully and overwhelmingly... *gracious*.

"I have found that I need *a lot* of grace in my life, and hopefully that allows me to show grace to others."

For many years, Yvonne felt that her "gifts and graces" were preparing her for a special work. After earning a degree in Business from Miles College, she married Roy Howze and joined his AME congregation. It was in this setting that she discovered a call to the ministry and the "freedom to express" her calling. A move in 1988 from Birmingham, Alabama and a secure position with Alabama Power Company to Nashville, Tennessee for studies in the divinity program at Vanderbilt University proved to be a difficult financial and emotional transition.

"Sometimes," she counsels, "upheaval in our lives gives God an opportunity to show us that He is still in control."

While living in Nashville and pursuing the Master of Divinity degree, Yvonne became an active member of a church which nurtured a growing interest in ministering to and providing for those affected by HIV and AIDS. Along with the pastor-- a physician at Vanderbilt University-- and another member of the congregation, Yvonne drafted a proposal for Project TEACH, an HIV/AIDS street outreach and education project. She served as Project Director for the outreach program for three years, serving concurrently as Assistant Pastor of Payne Chapel AME.

A return to Alabama in 1995 led to an appointment to the Pastor's position at a church in Union Springs. In January of 1996, she was hired as Director of Operations at A Baby's Place of Alabama.

Yvonne's serious involvement with HIV/AIDS-affected individuals began in 1989. While serving a chaplaincy unit at a hospital in Birmingham, she was called to bedside of a young man dying from complications associated with AIDS. The time spent with him and his family during the final hours brought her face to face for the first time with the trauma and stigma attached to the disease.

"His attending physician," she remembers, "found me later and said, 'This disease is so devastating. We have yet to see its full effects.'" At the bedside of a young man whose life was cut short by a disease and social ignorance he couldn't overcome, she discovered a new purpose for her ministry.

Yvonne's presence at A Baby's Place has already begun a good work in the lives of many HIV/AIDS-affected families in the community. She is a powerful advocate, a distinguished representative, an active voice, and a loving provider. She fulfills her role with competence, wit, and a grace born from a life devoted to service. As far as her role in the future success of A Baby's Place of Alabama, she is characteristically humble.

"A Baby's Place has a long history of providing loving care and support to children and families affected by HIV and AIDS.... Our immediate desire is to continue to be a reflection of God's Love and presence in our midst, and whatever gifts and graces I have been given will be used to that end in whatever manner necessary for the growth [and expansion] of A Baby's Place and the prevention of HIV."

Her smile is enigmatic. "It remains to be seen, but I believe the best is yet to come."

Angels Among Us... *A Special Invitation*

In 1986, on the eve of the new year, Andy Lakey danced just out of death's reach. Another life was being lost to reckless youth until an encounter with angels directed Andy home-alive but shaken-and focused his life's energies on the task of creating and renewing his life and the lives of others through his art. Since then, Andy's unique angel art has grown in both diversity and popularity, and he has appeared on the *Oprah Winfrey Show*, *Niteline*, and the prime-time documentary *Angels, the Mysterious Messengers* to share his vision of 2,000 angel paintings by the year 2000.

We are honored to welcome Andy Lakey to Birmingham on Friday evening, April 19 with an intimate reception at Unity of Birmingham, 2803 Highland Avenue, from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Mr. Lakey has generously offered one of his signature pieces for silent auction during the gathering. His exquisite angel jewelry will also be available, and he will be signing copies of "Art, Angels and Miracles," a biographical collection of his work. Proceeds from the auction and the purchase of his jewelry will benefit A Baby's Place of Alabama.

We believe that all of the children we serve are angels who have been given a few precious and sacred moments with us, to teach and lead us as we serve them with Love, light, and hope. It is for this reason that we are drawn so strongly to Andy Lakey's work and mission, and understand both broadly and intimately his connection with us... ANGELS! We look forward to your joining us for this special event.

For further information, please contact our offices at 939-1514.

© Andy Lakey

For A Baby's Place of Alabama to continue serving families and children affected by AIDS, we need your support. Please mail your tax-deductible donation to: A Baby's Place of Alabama, P.O. Box 590025, Birmingham, AL 35259-0025.

If you would like to be on our mailing list, please complete the following:

Name: _____

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